

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2129

Introduced by Assembly Member Jones-Sawyer

February 20, 2014

An act to add Article 2.2 (commencing with Section 3014) to Chapter 8 of Title 1 of Part 3 of the Penal Code, relating to inmates.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2129, as introduced, Jones-Sawyer. Inmates: reentry program.

Existing law requires the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to establish parole reentry and assessment programs for inmates in state prison, in order to assess the inmate prior to release and to assist with the inmate's reentry into the community while on parole.

This bill would require the department to establish a voluntary prerelease reentry program for inmates in prison, to commence no later than 6 months prior to the inmate's release from prison. The program would include, among other things, education programs, transition programs including employment services and skills, and cognitive behavior therapy, including substance abuse treatment and anger management.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Article 2.2 (commencing with Section 3014) is
2 added to Chapter 8 of Title 1 of Part 3 of the Penal Code, to read:

1 Article 2.2. Prerelease Voluntary Reentry Program

2
3 3014. (a) The department shall create and implement a
4 voluntary prerelease reentry program, for all inmates, as
5 appropriate. Participation in the program is voluntary and shall
6 commence no later than six months prior to release from prison.

7 (b) The program shall include, but not be limited to, adult basic
8 education, career technical education, postsecondary education,
9 and transition programs. The transition programs shall include,
10 but are not limited to, transition planning, employment services
11 and skills, financial literacy, and housing assistance. The program
12 shall also include cognitive behavior therapy, including, but not
13 limited to, substance abuse treatment, anger management, and
14 family relationships.